

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 021015

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY: IO/TRC:MPEHOYT
APPROVED BY: IO: MMCNAULL
EUR/WE:WMARSH
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R 292212Z JAN 75
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FOR USREP ICAO

FOL REPEAT OF PARIS 1894 TO SECSTATE INFO DIA FAA FAA WASHDC
LONDON BONN BEIRUT ALGIERS CAIRO MADRID THE HAGUE TEL AVIV
BORDEAUX LYON MARSEILLE STRASBOURG JAN 22

QTE:
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 01894

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, FR
SUBJECT: CIVAIR:GOF TIGHTENS AIRPORT SECURITY

1. AFTER INSPECTION OF ORLY AND CHARLES DE GAULLE
AIRPORTS YESTERDAY BY INTERIOR MINISTER PONIATOWSKI,
HE ANNOUNCED TO PRESS THAT SECURITY WOULD BE TIGHTENED
CONSIDERABLY FOLLOWING THE TWO TERRORIST ATTACKS THAT
OCCURRED AT ONE WEEK INTERVAL AT ORLY. MEASURES
ANNOUNCED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A) TERRACES OVERLOOKING AIRFIELD AT ORLY AND CHARLES DE
GAULLE AIR TERMINALS WILL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

B) FENCING AROUND AIRFIELDS WOULD BE RAISED TO HEIGHT
OF 2.5-3 METERS, ESPECIALLY AT SENSITIVE POINTS.

C) HENCEFORTH THERE WILL BE SPOT SEARCHING OF
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PASSENGERS (I.E., IN ADDITION TO PRESCREENING

PROCEDURES PRIOR DEPARTURE).

D) SECURITY FORCES WILL BE PROVIDED WITH SPECIAL WEAPONS, INCLUDING LONG-RANGE RIFLES.

E) ORDER IS REAFFIRMED THAT SECURITY FORCES ARE TO OPEN FIRE IMMEDIATELY ON ANY PERSON SURPRISED IN TERRORIST ACT.

F) FIRING PRACTICE BY MEMBERS OF SECURITY FORCE WILL BE INTENSIFIED.

G) COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT WILL BE PARKED IN AREAS PERMITTING BETTER SURVEILLANCE.

H) CRS (COMPAGNIE REPUBLICAINE DE SECURITE) UNITS ASSIGNED TO GUARDING OF AIRPORTS WILL NOT BE ROTATED AS OFTEN AS IN THE PAST, THUS ENABLING MEMBERS OF THESE UNITS THE BETTER TO KNOW INSTALLATIONS.

I) THE SPECIAL ANTI-COMMANDO BRIGADE WILL STUDY POSSIBLE SITES FROM WHICH TO FIRE.

J) BADGES OF DIFFERENT COLORS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO AIRPORT EMPLOYEES PERMITTING ACCESS ONLY TO THEIR PLACES OF WORK AND NOT TO ALL INSTALLATIONS AT THE AIRPORT.

K) X-RAY EQUIPMENT WILL BE INSTALLED FOR SCREENING OF BAGGAGE FOR WEAPONS DETECTION PURPOSES.

2. WE MIGHT NOTE THAT AT BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR, I. E., PRIOR TO THE TWO RECENT TERRORIST ATTACKS, HOLDERS OF AIRPORT PASSES ISSUED BY PARIS AIRPORT AUTHORITY (E.G., INCLUDING EMBASSY PERSONNEL SUCH AS RCAA, FAA REP, ETC.) WERE INFORMED THAT THESE PASSES WERE NOT BEING RENEWED FOR SECURITY REASONS IN ORDER LIMIT ACCESS OF GENERAL PUBLIC TO AIRPORT INSTALLATIONS. ACTUALLY, IN PRACTICE THESE "PASSES" HAD MERELY PERMITTED ACCESS TO PUBLIC AREAS AND NOT BEYOND POLICE/CUSTOMS CORDON FOR ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES. (COMMENT: THESE ARE DIFFERENT FROM SGAC PASSES ISSUED BY AIR POLICE TO EMBASSY FOR POUCH NEEDS.)

3. FOLLOWING LATEST TERRORIST ATTACK AND PRIOR TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF ABOVE MEASURES, WE CHECKED WITH PANAM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND TWA TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THEY HAD BEEN SATISFIED WITH SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS PROVIDED BY GOF AT PARIS AIRPORTS. BOTH CARRIERS FELT THAT SECURITY HAD BEEN TIGHT. LONDON-BASED SECURITY OFFICERS OF BOTH CARRIERS HAD, MOREOVER, COME TO PARIS TO INSPECT ARRANGEMENTS DURING PERIOD RECENTLY WHEN BOTH CARRIERS WERE ON SPECIAL ALERT AS RESULT OF POSSIBLE TERRORIST THREAT, AND SECURITY OFFICERS HAD BEEN MORE THAN

SATISFIED WITH EXTRA SECURITY PROTECTION GOF HAD PROVIDED ON THAT OCCASION.

4. MEMBER OF EL AL'S PARIS STAFF WHO ASKED NOT TO BE IDENTIFIED WAS INTERVIEWED ON FRENCH RADIO AFTER LATEST TERRORIST ATTACK AT ORLY DIRECTED AGAINST EL AL AIRCRAFT. HE WAS ASKED POINTBLANK WHETHER HE THOUGHT GOF HAD TAKEN ADEQUATE SECURITY PRECAUTIONS. HE DID NOT FAULT FRENCH SECURITY BUT RATHER POINTED OUT THAT NO SECURITY SYSTEM COULD BE 100 PERCENT FOOLPROOF AND, IN PARTICULAR, IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE AIRTIGHT SECURITY AT AIRPORTS WHERE SOME CONCESSION HAD TO BE MADE TO PUBLIC SERVICE ROLE OF BOTH THE AIRPORTS AND THE CARRIERS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, ANTIHIJACKING PROCEDURES, MEETINGS, AIRPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE021015
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/TRC:MPEHOYT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750033-1077
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975019/aaaaahuj.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <16 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: EAIR, FR, ORLY AIRPORT, CHARLES DE GAULLE AIRPORT
To: MONTREAL
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006